NEWS RELEASE

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MVTA to begin serving Dakota County Technical College in August

Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) will begin service to Dakota County Technical College (DCTC) on Aug. 20.

The service, which has been sought by college students for several years, will be an extension of existing MVTA Route 420 from Rosemount Transit Station to Dakota County Technical College. The first two years of the route are being funded through support from Dakota County as part of its East-West Transit Study.

There will be two morning trips to the campus, two afternoon trips as well as single trips in the afternoon and evening. Route 420 is a local route with a rush hour fare of $2.50.

“This opportunity to have reliable transportation to and from campus is of great importance to our students,” according to letter from the DCTC Student Senate. “Our Student Senate has advocated for transportation options for students steadily since 2013.”

In addition to the connection from Rosemount Transit Station, Route 420 serves Apple Valley Transit Station, which has connections with the Red Line (Apple Valley – Mall of America), Route 477 (Lakeville – Minneapolis) and Route 442 (Burnsville Center-Apple Valley).

MVTA Executive Director Luther Wynder said MVTA is pleased that the service will become a reality this fall.

“Public transit can provide a vital link for area students to obtain needed education,” Wynder said. “MVTA is looking forward to starting the route extension to DCTC and is thankful for the support for the service provided by local communities, public officials and DCTC students.”
A 2016 DCTC Student Survey indicated 30 percent of DCTC students were interested in using transit service. The top cities of residence for DCTC students include Burnsville, Rosemount and Lakeville.

DCTC’s Chief Academic Officer Mike Opp is excited to welcome new students to DCTC now that Route 420 will be extended to the campus.

“We have always believed that there are students interested in our college and our programs but did not consider us due to not having reliable transportation to our campus,” Opp said. “The current bus schedule will provide that reliable transportation and it works well with the way our programs are scheduled.”

DCTC offers 55 degree programs and more than 90 certificate and diploma programs, in virtually every professional sector imaginable. The programs are relevant, affordable and flexible, allowing students to graduate and transition into rewarding careers. Information regarding the Route 420 service extension will be available on Trip Planners and pocket schedules in August prior to the start of service.

For more MVTA route information, go to MVTA website or contact Minnesota Valley Transit Authority Customer Service at 952-882-7500.

For more information on enrollment and programs at DCTC, visit dctc.edu or call Admissions at 651-423-8000.

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